

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1 to 17 without prejudice and add the following claims 18 to 38:

18. A drive apparatus for a wiper system (10), said drive apparatus comprising wiper motor (18);

lever drive mechanism for a wiper (12) of the wiper system, said lever drive mechanism comprising a drive lever (36) and a four-bar wiper lever (40) pivotally connected with the drive lever (36);

coupling mechanism (20) for coupling said lever drive mechanism with said wiper motor (18), said coupling mechanism (20) comprising a crank (22) connected with the wiper motor (18), a coupling rod (24) pivotally connected to said crank (22), a guide rod (26) pivotally supported at a bearing point (48) on the vehicle and connected in an articulated fashion with said coupling rod (24); and

joint rod (28) pivotally connecting the drive lever (36) of the lever drive mechanism to the coupling mechanism (20), so that said lever drive mechanism is drivable by said drive motor (18) via said coupling mechanism.

19. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 18, wherein said coupling rod (24) is a sheet metal part (70, 72) provided with joint pins (84, 90) at respective opposite ends thereof, and said crank (22) and said guide rod (26) are pivotally connected at said respective opposite ends to said joint pins (84, 90) via corresponding bearing shells (88).

20. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 19, wherein at least one of said joint pins (84, 90) is unilaterally fastened to said coupling rod (24).

21. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 18, wherein said coupling rod (24) comprises two sheet metal parts (70, 72) provided with at least one joint pin (84) held at opposing ends of said metal parts.

22. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 18, wherein said coupling rod (24) has forked ends and at least one joint pin (84) retained in said forked ends.

23. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 22, wherein said coupling rod (24) comprises two sheet metal parts (70, 72) and has forked ends, and said two sheet metal parts (70,72) are attached together between said forked ends.

24. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 18, wherein said crank (22), said coupling rod (24) and/or said guide rod (26) are formed with offset bends (74, 76, 78) in a direction of motion and/or transversely to said direction of motion.

25. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 18, wherein said wiper motor (18) is reversible.

26. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 18, further comprising a mounting

plate (42) provided on the vehicle and wherein said bearing point (48) is on said mounting plate (42).

27. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 18, wherein said joint rod (28) is pivotally connected to said coupling rod (24) by a ball peg (80) and said guide rod (26) is pivotally connected to said coupling rod (24) by another ball peg (82).

28. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 18, wherein said drive lever (36) is a cross guide rod.

29. A drive apparatus of a wiper system (10), said drive apparatus comprising wiper motor (18);

first lever drive mechanism for a first wiper (12) of the wiper system (10), said first lever drive mechanism comprising a drive lever (36) and a four-bar wiper lever (40) pivotally connected with the drive lever (36);

second lever drive mechanism for a second wiper (14) of the wiper system (10), said second lever drive mechanism comprising a joint rod (30) pivotally connected with said second wiper (14);

coupling mechanism (20) for coupling said first lever drive mechanism and said second lever drive mechanism with said wiper motor (18), wherein said coupling mechanism (20) comprises a crank (22) connected with said wiper motor (18), a coupling rod (24) pivotally connected to said crank (22), a guide rod (26) pivotally supported at a bearing point (48) on the vehicle and connected in

an articulated fashion with said coupling rod (24); and

another joint rod (28) pivotally connecting the drive lever (36) of the first lever drive mechanism to the coupling mechanism (20), and wherein said joint rod (30) is pivotally connected with the coupling mechanism (20);

whereby said first lever drive mechanism and said second lever drive mechanism are drivable by said drive motor (18) via said coupling mechanism (20).

30. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 29, wherein said another joint rod (28) or said joint rod (30) or guide rod (26) is provided with respective joint pins (84) at corresponding opposite ends thereof, said joint pins (84) arranged on said coupling rod (24) pivotally connect said drive lever (36) and said coupling rod (24) to said coupling rod (24) and said joint pins (84) are provided with ball pegs (80, 82).

31. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 30, wherein said ball pegs are double ball pegs (94).

32. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 29, wherein two ball pegs (80, 82) are arranged parallel to one another on said coupling rod (24).

33. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 30, wherein said ball pegs (80, 82, 94) and said joint pins (84, 90) are riveted to said guide rod (26) and/or said

coupling rod (24).

34. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 33, wherein said coupling rod (24) comprises two metal sheets (70, 72) and one of said two metal sheets remote from said ball pegs (80, 82, 94) is indented or curved toward another of said two metal sheets and is riveted to said another of said two metal sheets by another ball peg.

35. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 29, wherein said drive lever (36) is a cross guide rod.

36. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 29, wherein said crank (22), said coupling rod (24) and/or said guide rod (26) are formed with offset bends (74, 76, 78) in a direction of motion and/or transversely to said direction of motion.

37. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 29, wherein said wiper motor (18) is reversible.

38. The drive apparatus as defined in claim 29, further comprising a mounting plate (42) provided on the vehicle and wherein said bearing point (48) is on said mounting plate (42).